

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 BIB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 /086 W

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R 151207Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8179

INFO CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3482

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1 YEAR

TAGS: PFOR UR CB

SUBJECT: SOVIETS LOOK TO INSURGENT VICTORY IN CAMBODIA

1. WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT PETER OSNOS SAID THAT AN UNSPECIFIED SOVIET SOURCE TOLD HIM ON MARCH 13 THAT MOSCOW NOW LOOKS TOWARD AN EARLY VICTORY BY THE KHMER ROUGE FORCES AND HAD "TAKEN CERTAIN STEPS" TO ESTABLISH TIES WITH THE INSURGENTS. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER FIRYUBIN'S RECENT TRIP TO HANOI WAS ONE OF THOSE STEPS. ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, BASED ON THE LAOTIAN EXAMPLE OR SOME OTHER FORMULA, OSNOS' SOVIET SOURCE SAID THAT MOSCOW SAW NO REASON TO TRY TO "BAIL THE 7.S. OUT" OF ITS PREDICAMENT AND THAT FURTHER TEMPORIZING WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE.

2. COMMENT: THESE VIEWS, IF THEY ACCURATELY REFLECT OFFICIAL SOVIET THINKING, SHOW A SIGNIFICANT SHIFT AWAY FROM MOSCOW'S LINE OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS WHICH HELD OUT THE "LAOTIAN
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EXAMPLE" AS A USEFUL MODEL FOR A CAMBODIAN SETTLEMENT. HOWEVER,

GIVEN CURRENT PRECARIOUS SITUATION IN PHNOM PENH, SUCH A
SHIFT SEEMS TO US HIGHLY PLAUSIBLE.
STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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